

Express Mail No. EL629609050US  
PATENT  
36856.1178

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  Masato HIGUCHI et al.  Serial No.: Currently unknown  Filing Date: Concurrently herewith  For: METHOD OF PRODUCING PIEZOELECTRIC COMPONENT AND PIEZOELECTRIC COMPONENT	
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, and in recognition of their duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office relevant information known to be material to patentability, Applicants herewith submit copies of the prior art listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449), including an English abstract. The relevance of WO97/02596 is set forth in the originally filed specification of the present application

The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Information Disclosure

Statement

December 5, 2003

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Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 5, 2003



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	<b>Masato HIGUCHI</b>
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	<b>36856.1178</b>

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number-Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	1	JP 07-321583	12/1995	JAPAN		X
	2	JP 10-321666	12/1998	JAPAN		X
	3	JP 10-125825	05/1998	JAPAN		X
	4	JP 2002-217221	08/2002	JAPAN		X
	5	JP 2002-217523	08/2002	JAPAN		X
	6	JP 2000-004139	01/2000	JAPAN		X
	7	JP 2002-217219	08/2002	JAPAN		X
	8	JP 2002-217220	08/2002	JAPAN		X
	9	JP 08-204497	08/1996	JAPAN		X
	10	WO97/02596	01/1997	JAPAN		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.